

# **Performance Measures Fourth Judicial District**

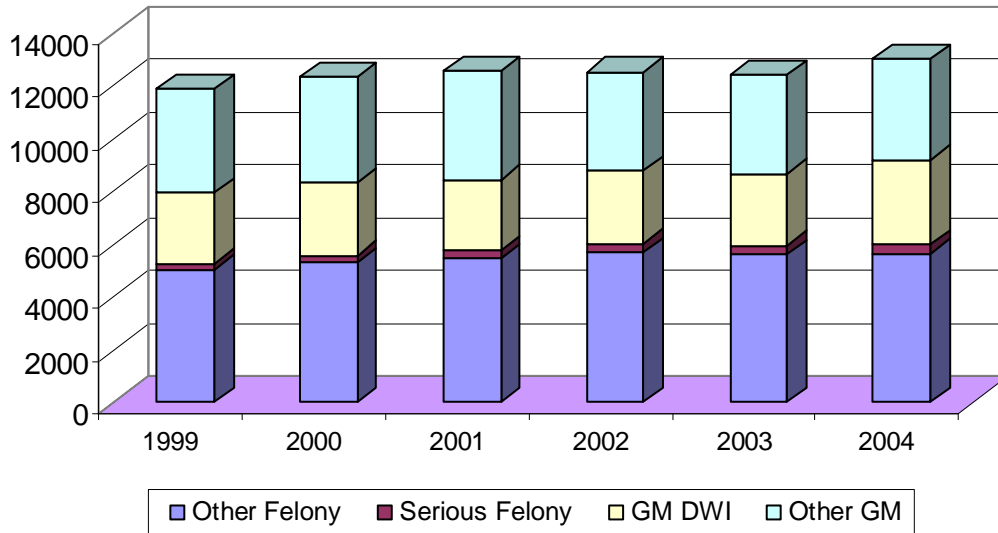
## **Criminal Division**



## Background information on Criminal Court Cases

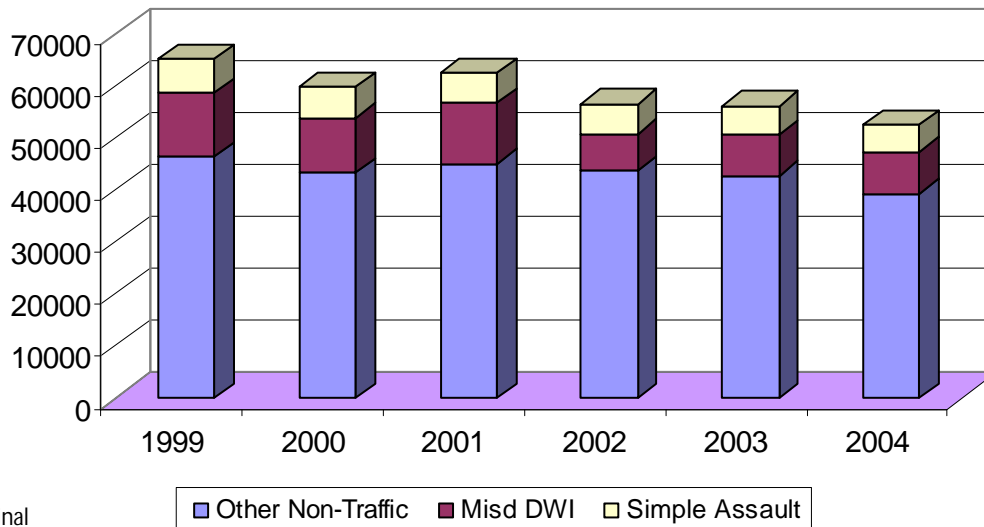
- ◆ Number of new major and minor filings in Criminal Court since 1999

### Criminal Court- New Major Cases



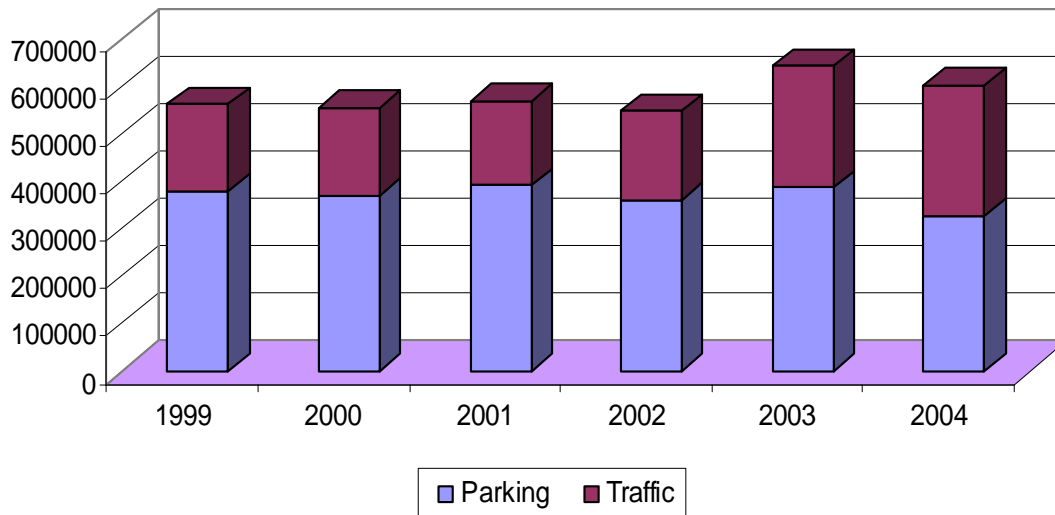
Major Criminal Filings (all felonies and gross misdemeanors) have increased 9% since 1999. During a similar time period, Minor Criminal Filings (excluding parking and traffic) have decreased 19%.

### Criminal Court- New Minor Criminal Cases (Excluding Parking and Traffic)



## Background information on Criminal Court Cases

**New Parking and Traffic Cases**



Parking and Traffic citations as a whole have increased 7% since 1999. This overall increase is composed of a decrease of 14% for Parking citations since 1999 while Traffic tickets have increased 52% over the last six years (particularly in the last two years).

## Performance Measures Fourth Judicial District



### **Customer—** *Provide fair & equal treatment, access to justice*

- ◆ Is the court perceived as fair to litigants and other constituents?
- ◆ Do litigants perceive they are being listened to?
- ◆ Do litigants understand the orders given by the court?
- ◆ Do litigants perceive that cases are resolved in a timely manner?

#### **Is the court perceived as fair to litigants and other constituents?**

Defendants in Criminal Drug Court	7.74
Court Users in the Suburban Courts	8.07
Court Users seeing the Suburban Hearing Officers	7.50
Court Users seeing the Downtown Hearing Officers	7.00

#### **Do litigants perceive they are being listened to?**

Defendants in Criminal Drug Court	8.04
Court users seeing the Suburban Hearing Officers	8.37
Court Users seeing the Downtown Hearing Officers	7.79

#### **Do litigants understand the orders given by the court?**

Defendants in Criminal Drug Court	8.61
Court users in the Suburban Courts	8.52
Court users seeing the Suburban Hearing Officers	8.53
Court Users seeing the Downtown Hearing Officers	8.61

#### **Do litigants perceive that cases are resolved in a timely manner?**

Court users in the Suburban Courts	6.08
Court users seeing the Suburban Hearing Officers	7.96
Court Users seeing the Downtown Hearing Officers	7.44

Prior research tells us that satisfaction with the court process has more to do with fair treatment than with favorable case outcomes. In addition litigant satisfaction leads to viewing court authority as legitimate, which in turn leads to increased compliance with court orders.

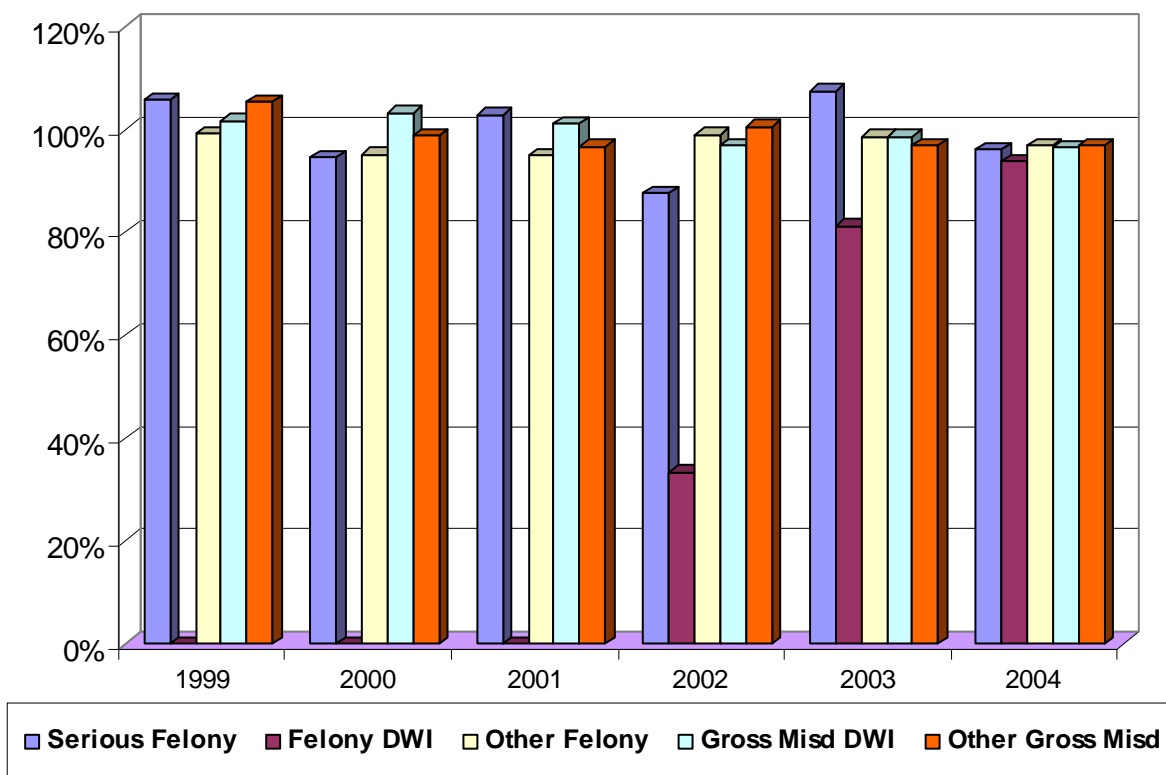
**On a scale of 1 to 9, where 1 means strongly disagree and 9 means strongly agree.**

## Performance Measures Fourth Judicial District

### **Process** - Fair & timely case processing, Effective & efficient case processing

#### ◆ Clearance rates for Criminal court

Clearance Rates for Major Criminal Cases:  
1999 - 2004



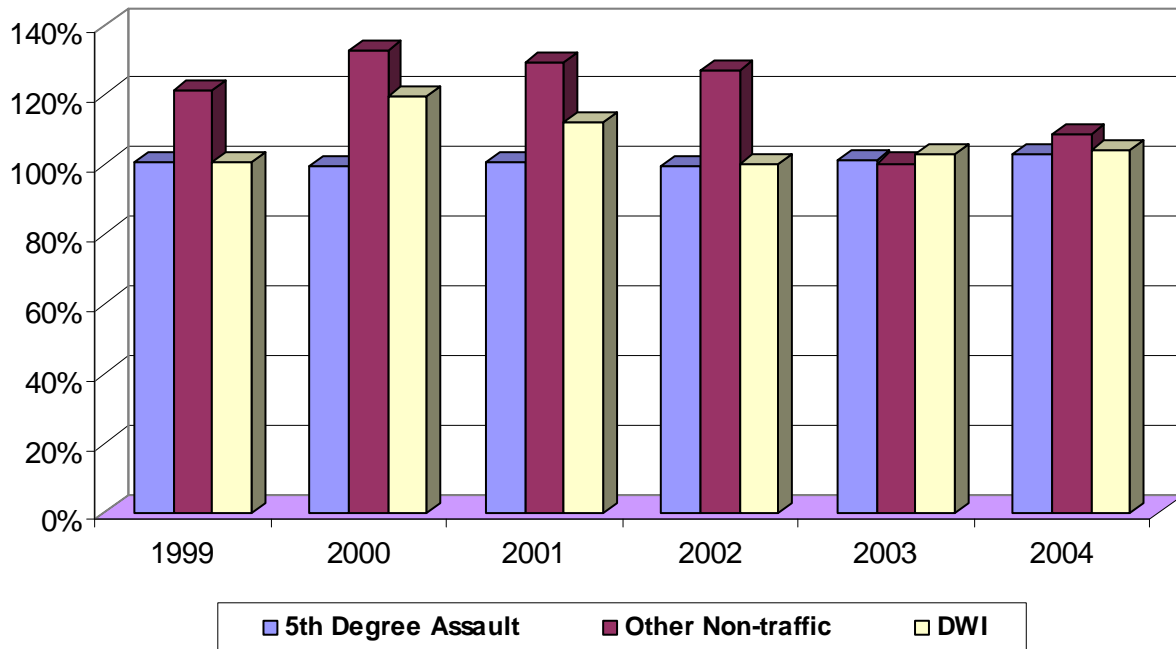
Clearance Rates are calculated by dividing the number of cases disposed by the number of new cases. Any amount over 100% means that the court is handling all the new cases and is beginning to work on pending cases as well.

## Performance Measures Fourth Judicial District

### **Process** - Fair & timely case processing, Effective & efficient case processing

#### ◆ Clearance rates for Criminal court

**Clearance Rates for Minor Criminal Cases:  
1999- 2004**

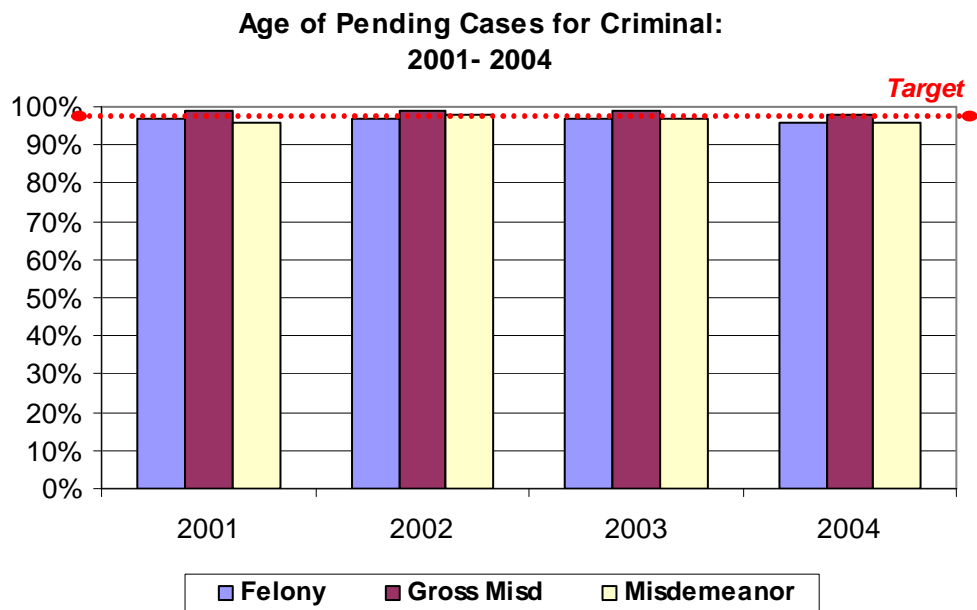


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## Performance Measures Fourth Judicial District

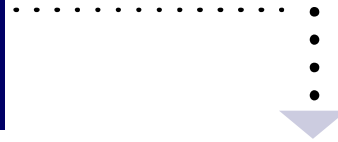
### Process - Fair & timely case processing, Effective & efficient case processing

#### ◆ Age of pending for Criminal cases



State Guidelines suggest that 99% of Major Criminal pending cases (felony and gross misdemeanor) should be less than 12 months old and Minor Criminal cases (misdemeanor level) should be less than 6 months old. Pending cases are those cases that have not yet been disposed.

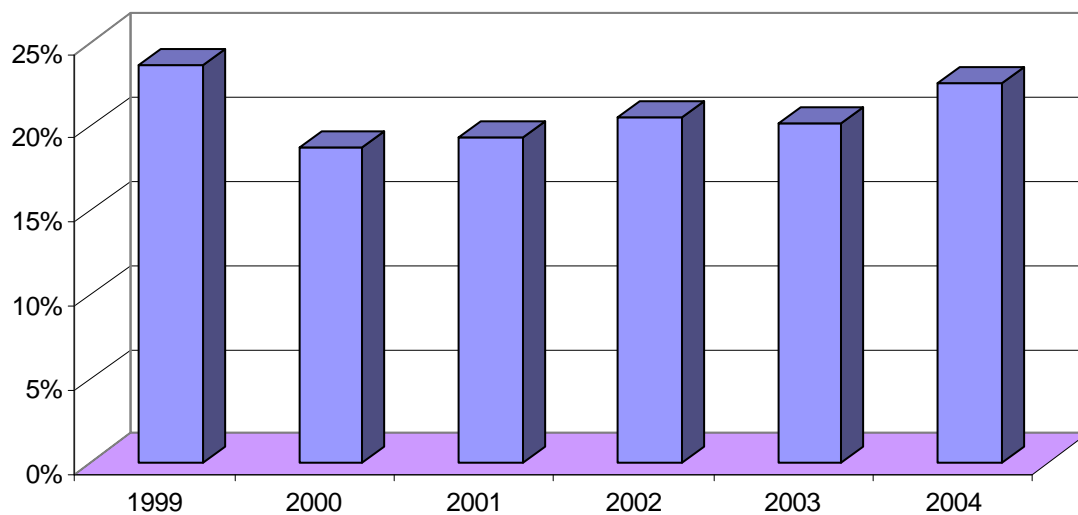
## Performance Measures Fourth Judicial District



### **Process** - Fair & timely case processing, Effective & efficient case processing

#### ◆ Percent of cases pending for Major Criminal

Percent Pending for Major Criminal Cases:  
1999- 2004



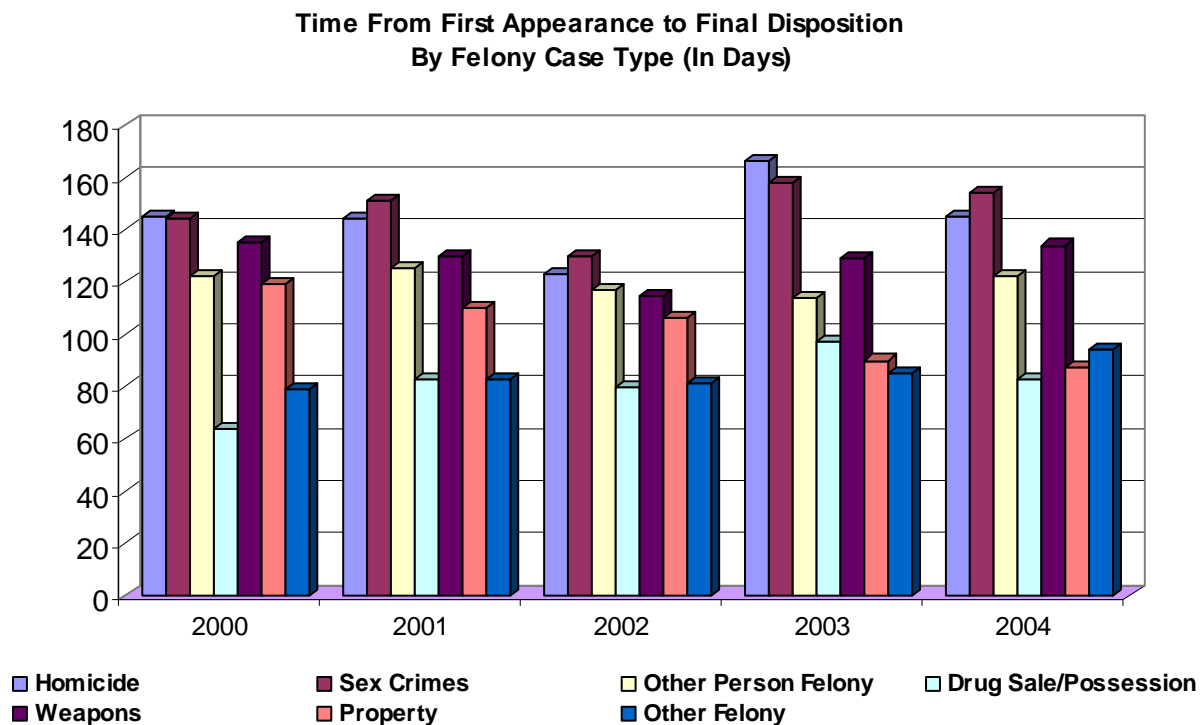
The 'Percent Pending' tracks the percent of the cases that are still active at the end of each year. About 20% of the Major Criminal cases are pending at any given time during the year.



## Performance Measures Fourth Judicial District

### Process - Fair & timely case processing, Effective & efficient case processing

#### ♦ Average Age of Disposed Felony cases

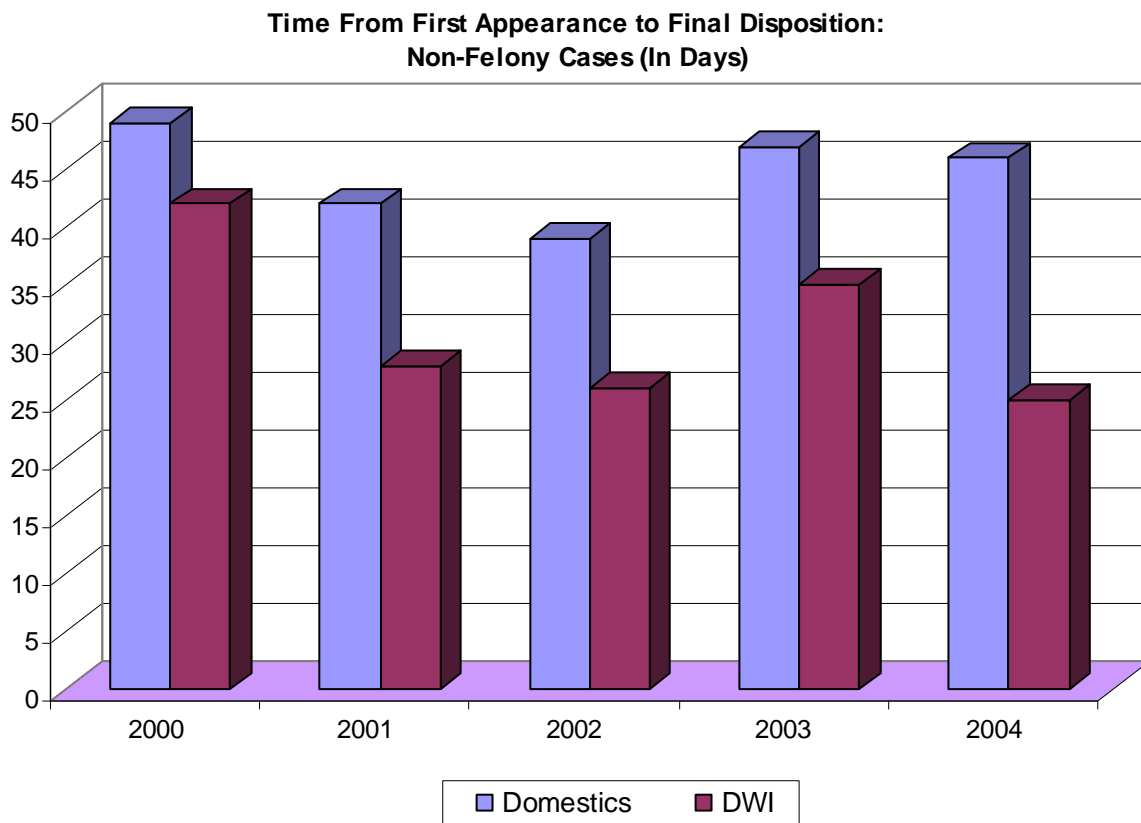


Knowing the average age of cases that have been resolved helps courts plan for different types of calendars. Clearly, homicide cases take the longest to resolve followed by sex crime offenses, weapon cases and other types of felonies against persons. The felony cases that take the shortest amount of time to resolve are drug cases, property cases and other types of felonies (fugitive from justice, Felony DWI (from 2002 forward)).

## Performance Measures Fourth Judicial District

### **Process** - Fair & timely case processing, Effective & efficient case processing

#### ♦ Average Age of Disposed Non-Felony cases



Knowing the average age of cases that have been resolved helps courts plan for different types of calendars. Domestic assault cases and misdemeanor DWI (driving under the influence) cases are the two most difficult non-felony case types the court handles. In the summer of 2000, the court began a new expedited DWI program and it is responsible for reducing the average number of days from first appearance to final disposition.

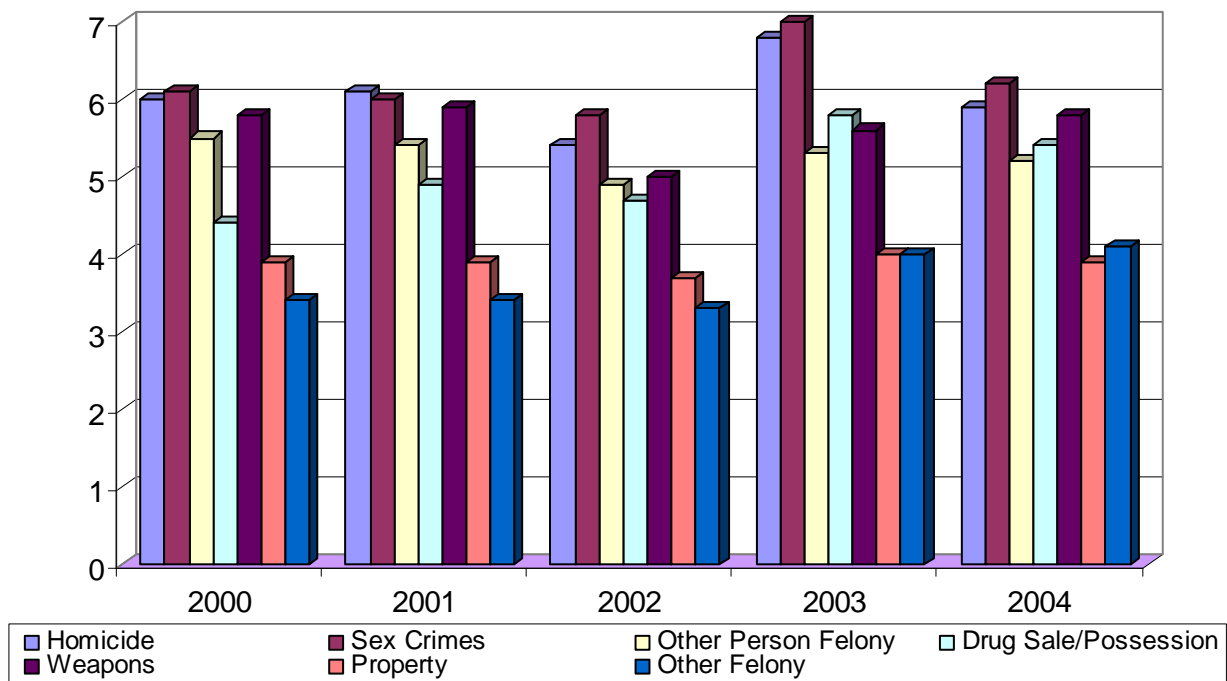
## Performance Measures Fourth Judicial District



### Process - Fair & timely case processing, Effective & efficient case processing

#### ♦ Average Number of Appearances to Resolution

Average Number of Appearances to Final Disposition  
Felony Cases



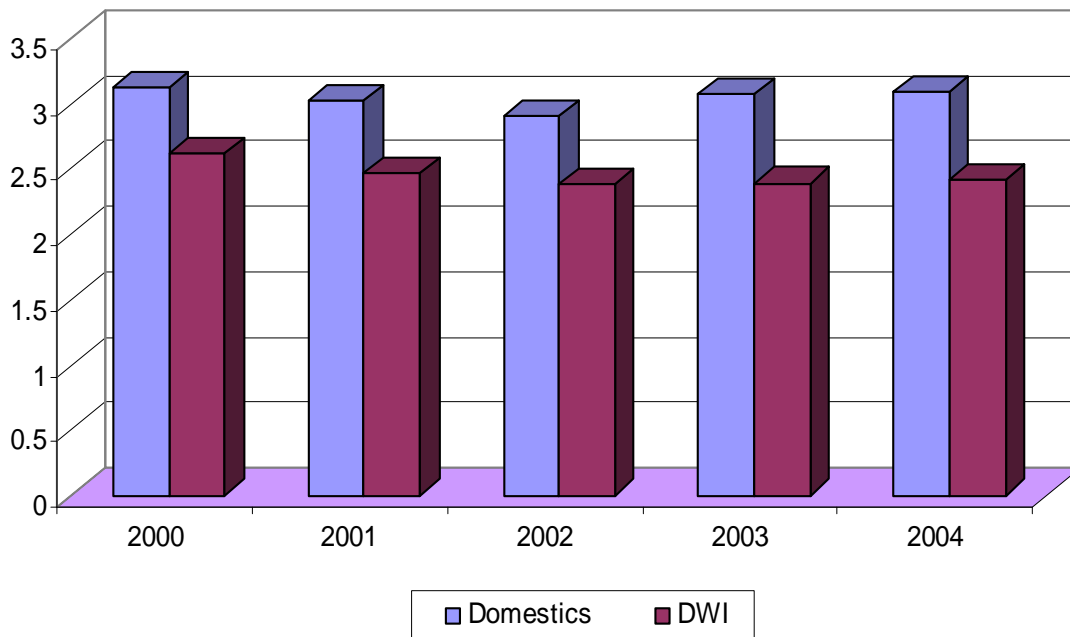
Besides keeping track of the average length of days cases take to resolve, the court also keeps track of the average number of appearances that are necessary to dispose of cases. Each appearance includes a judge, at least two attorneys, the defendant, and possibly other system players such as probation officers, psychologists or social workers. Clearly, the more useful appearances are the more cost effective the whole system becomes for everyone.

## Performance Measures Fourth Judicial District

### **Process** - Fair & timely case processing, Effective & efficient case processing

#### ♦ Average Number of Appearances to Resolution

**Average Number of Appearances to Final Disposition  
Non- Felony Cases**



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